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Students given school supplies
Page 3



Shots fired in broad daylight
Page 4



Roksana Amid/Herald

Sharing a passion for the North Shore

Painter George Gach loved the North Shore. He spent much of his time capturing its beauty in paintings and sculptures. His painting of Hippy Park is on permanent exhibit at the North Shore Historical Museum in Glen Cove. Story, more photos, Page 19.

Swastika found near memorial to Holocaust

By **ROKSANA AMID**
ramid@iherald.com

Welwyn Preserve, known for its wooded hiking trails, is just steps away from the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, on Crescent Road in Glen Cove. The area is often marked with graffiti art of pop culture characters, but in recent years, symbols of hate have been scattered through the abandoned buildings and trees.

The most recent act of vandalism, a swastika painted on a tree and an MS-13 gang tag on another tree, was discovered by a hiker on Aug. 22, after the museum closed for the day. As of press time, the investigation of the incident was continuing.

The Anti-Defamation League, which promotes education about the Holocaust, reported that hate crimes against Jewish people hit a record high in New York state in 2022 — a total of 580, the most of any state in the country. That is a 39 percent increase since

2021, when 416 incidents were reported, and more than double the number a decade ago. According to the ADL, New York alone accounted for 15.7 percent of all documented antisemitic incidents in the United States in 2022.

Martin Bloch, who moved to Oyster Bay in 1984, was one of roughly 3,000 Jewish partisans who fought the Nazis.

Whenever I see it, I get very concerned, but I'm not surprised by what happened.

MARTIN BLOCH
Holocaust survivor

Today he lectures on the Holocaust, and said he feels that education is important to keep future generations from repeating history.

"Whenever I see it, I get very concerned," Bloch said when asked about the vandalism in Welwyn Preserve. "But I'm not surprised by what happened."

Moji Pourmoradi, the Holocaust center's executive director, said she was also not surprised by the incident, and described antisemitism as attempts to dehumanize the Jewish population. The museum, Pourmoradi

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

G.C. bans pool app, short rentals

Swimply, Airbnb are voted out by City Council

By **ROKSANA AMID**
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The Glen Cove City Council voted on Aug. 22 to ban the use of Airbnb for property rentals of less than 28 days. Council members also voted to ban the use of the Swimply phone app, which allows people to rent their pools by the hour.

The ban stems from the near-drowning of a 23-year-old man on Aug. 10 at a home on Doxey Drive. According to Glen Cove police, the man, a resident of the Bronx, fell into the deep end of a pool, and was not breathing when EMS arrived. Police said that the man's girlfriend, a 19-year-old from New Jersey, claimed he couldn't swim.

The owners of 4 Doxey Drive had rented their pool on an hourly basis via the Swimply app, police said. One neighbor, who declined to be identified, said they were angry about the crowd that had gathered apparently for a party at the house.

"This is a quiet neighborhood," the resident said. "Our neighbors watch out for each other, we take care of our homes, everybody's very hard working. To have total strangers just coming through the area — it's unsettling. They're not friends, they're not friends of your neighbors, they're total strangers."

At the City Council meeting on Aug. 22, Mayor

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Near-drowning inspires new law in G.C.

August 31, 2023 – GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Pamela Panzenbeck said she was unaware that the Swimply app was being used in the area, but asserted that “one tragedy is really enough” to justify banning it, adding, “You don’t really know who’s coming into your neighborhood.” Panzenbeck said she hoped to move swiftly to approve the ban, concerned about the safety of renters.

“We’ve had some complaints about one particular Airbnb over the last few weeks,” she said. “There have been three complaints involving the police, and the police really cannot do anything without a law like this in effect.”

Citing the case of the Brooklyn rapper Fetty Luciano, who was indicted on charges related to a shooting that injured three people at a July 2022 pool party at the Mansion at Glen Cove, and a fatal shooting that occurred in Valley Stream on Aug. 21, Councilman Jack Mancusi stated that the council’s concerns weren’t an overreaction to an isolated event, and that it was important to weigh the needs of the community.

“If we don’t put this ordinance in, it’s almost like saying then we can have a free-for-all right on your property and have parties,” Mancusi said. “That’s not

good for the neighbors. So what this ordinance does is, it really protects the neighbors, so if the neighbors don’t have a problem with anything, then the police really have no reason to go there.”

Councilwoman Marsha Silverman said her first priority was safety, and she believed that hourly apps like Swimply should be banned, but she was also concerned that the council was overreaching to matters involving citizens and their property. She said that residents who want to pay for part of their vacations using short-term rentals should be allowed to do so.

City Attorney Tip Henderson noted that the council needed to determine what is best fit for the community, and that the 28-day rental law was a “place to start.”

Silverman proposed alternatives such as limiting rentals to only one per month per home, and requiring rental permits for short-term rentals.

To have total strangers just coming through the area – it’s unsettling. They’re not friends, they’re not friends of your neighbors, they’re total strangers.

DOXEY DRIVE RESIDENT



Courtesy Metro Creative Connection

Apps like Swimply, with which people can rent a pool by the hour, and short-term rentals of fewer than 28 days are now banned in Glen Cove.

Although she said she didn’t want to wait until the next council meeting, on Sept. 26, to vote on the law, she said that having only one week to vote on the ordinance since the last pre-council meeting, which was held on Aug. 15

wasn’t enough time to properly vet the situation. She added that she hoped the council would revisit the law.

The measure to ban rentals shorter than 28 days and to ban the Swimply app, passed unanimously.

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Roni Chastain/Herald photos

Officer Peter Michaelas, left, Deputy Chief Chris Ortiz and John Blanthorn from the Nassau Police Benevolent Association helped distribute school supplies for the upcoming school year.

Supplies given for a successful year in school

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@lherald.com

The first day of school can mean a lot of different things to students. There will be the return of homework and the reuniting with old friends. But what some take for granted — buying a backpack and school supplies for children — is too expensive for some families to provide. To help, the Nassau County Police Benevolent Association, Glen Cove Police Benevolent Association and Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton handed out free backpacks and school supplies at Glen Cove High School on Aug. 29, to ensure children have a better start at the beginning of the school year.

A consumer sentiment survey by ScoreSense, a credit score-monitoring product, revealed economic inflation is affecting 67 percent of parents with children in grade school through college in their ability to pay for education, school supplies, or extracurricular activities. The survey also found that nearly half of grade school parents plan to use cash and 38 percent plan to use credit cards to pay for back-to-school supplies and clothing. As prices for higher-level education continue to increase, parents are making financial adjustments to their lives to help their children go to college or trade school. The survey found 31 percent of parents are taking on a second job and 20 percent are tapping into their retirement



Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, right, helped to distribute backpacks to youth in the city's school district.

savings.

“People say it’s just one less thing they have to buy for their kids,” DeRiggi-Whitton said. “A lot of families are just making ends meet.”

The backpack giveaway and her work with Toys for Tots are some of DeRiggi-Whitton’s favorite events of the year. She said she loves seeing youth come away from events with items they’re excited to have.

Over 650 students are primed to start the school year at the Glen Cove City School District with the tools they will need to learn and thrive. Each bag given to the students was filled with class-

room essentials including notebooks, pens and crayons valued at roughly \$30. The county PBA purchased 2,400 backpacks and has since donated to schools in Westbury. They will also donate to Island Park, Great Neck, and Manhasset in the coming weeks.

The supply drive initially began in Westbury in 2019, and quickly grew in popularity during the pandemic.

John Paterson, County PBA Corresponding Secretary said the program is a great opportunity for youths to interact with police in a positive way, and that the PBA is always happy to interact with their communities.




Katherine Zavala, left, Victor Garcia and Jessica Hermade used the backpack giveaway as a resource for the upcoming school year.

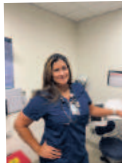
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Roksana Amid/Herald

Shots were fired at the corner of porter place and doxey drive. no injuries were reported.

Shots fired at vehicle on Doxey Drive in Glen Cove

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Police responded to multiple calls about a shooting in Glen Cove around 1 p.m. on the corner of Porter Place and Doxey Drive on Monday. When police arrived at the scene, they found shell casings, and concluded that the driver of a gray Audi sedan was being chased by drivers of a white Lexus and red Honda Accord. Once the vehicles reached the intersection of Doxey Drive and Porter Place, shots were fired at the driver of the gray Audi. Following the shooting, the three cars rapidly drove away.

Glen Cove Police have not released

further details about injuries or if those involved are Glen Cove residents. They have determined that this was an incident between individuals known to each other and there is no threat to the public. The investigation is ongoing.

Nancy Bennnett, who lives nearby, said she didn't hear about the incident and was surprised to hear about the shooting.

"There's just not as much traffic and you have to go up a hill to get here," Bennnett said. "It's off the beaten path. It's a nice quiet neighborhood."

Police are asking anyone with information about the shooting to call (516) 676-1000 or email tips@glencovepd.org.



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Book Review: Healthy at 100 by John Robbins (Part Two)

Last week we looked at the four major reasons people live longer: diet, physical activity, culture or socialization and respect for the elderly.

Taking a deeper dive, the book cites a preeminent expert on aging, John W. Rowe, M.D., Chairman of the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Successful Aging who explains: "The bottom line is very clear: with rare exceptions, only about 30 percent of physical aging can be blamed on genes...MacArthur Research provides very strong evidence that we are, in large part, responsible for our own old age."

Take the example of longest lived people in the world — the Okinawans "When Okinawans move elsewhere and adopt the diets of their new locations, they get the same diseases at the same rates and die at the same ages, as the people whose customs they embrace. The life expectancy of Okinawans who move to Brazil, for example, drops seventeen years."

"Diseases of affluence" — including diabetes, coronary heart diseases and many forms of cancer are all linked to animal-based diets. Foods that decrease cholesterol levels are soy products, whole grains, fruits, vegetables, peas and beans. "As a result of the vast amount of information gathered... the scientific evidence indicates that a diet based on plant foods with a minimal amount of food derived from animals as the ideal diet for human beings." Since almost all the cells in your body continually regenerate, "steps you can take" provides a guide "so what you eat today literally becomes your body tomorrow."

Next up are physical activities. The Vilcabamba have a saying, that "each of us has two doctors — the left leg and the right leg." People become passive and then the less they move the harder it becomes to do so. However, "those who think they have no time for bodily exercise will sooner or later have to find time for illness."

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CRIME WATCH

ARRESTS

- A 24-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Aug. 20 for criminal possession of stolen property, petit larceny, theft of services and a first district open warrant on Glen Street.
- A 23-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Aug. 20 for assault, criminal mischief and criminal possession of stolen property on Glen Street.
- A 36-year-old Glen Cove male was arrested on Aug. 20 for criminal trespass on Glen Cove Avenue.

GLEN COVE
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Acts of antisemitic vandalism are occurring more frequently in New York state. Staff members at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center say they're not surprised.



Photos courtesy Glen Cove Police Department

'People are forgetting our humanity'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said, works to combat that mindset.

"To see that people are forgetting the message of humanity, that's what's scary to us," she said. "What we see is that people are forgetting our humanity again. It's time for upstanders to stand up. It's time for those kinds of people to speak up and say that we're not going to tolerate it."

The Holocaust center has long fought acts of bigotry and hate, and Alan Mindel, its board chair, said he wants people to realize the world is seeing the last generation of Holocaust survivors diminish over time. But there is a renewed emphasis on Holocaust education in local schools, thanks to a state law signed last year by Gov. Kathy Hochul, requiring public school superintendents to confirm in a survey that their schools are making the Holocaust part of classroom instruction.

The survey asks whether elementary, middle and high schools are providing instruction on the Holocaust, how they are doing so and what type of training teachers have received in the subject.

Mindel said that in spite of this, the museum often receives calls from schools about students who have manifested antisemitic attitudes or taken part in hate-related incidents. The students are sent to the museum to meet with a docent or a Holocaust survivor, and tour the exhibits detailing the genocide of European Jews during World War II. Then they are asked to fill out a questionnaire, explaining how they felt during the tour, what they learned and what motivated their antisemitic behavior.

Bernie Furshpan, the museum's marketing director and educator, said that despite recent incidents, the museum is not "cowering back" to draw less attention to itself. In fact, Furshpan said, it is doing the opposite.

"We really do fight back hate, and push for tolerance in education with young people," he said. "It's really young people that are doing this. Most of the time, they don't even know what they're doing and they



Vandalism attributed to the MS-13 gang was discovered at Welwyn Preserve, just steps away from the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center.

don't even know why they're doing it."

Furshpan added that whatever the reasoning is behind the vandalism, those who are responsible don't truly understand what antisemitism is.

The Glen Cove Police Department has increased its presence at the preserve, he said, and military personnel have reached out to him to offer their services to help patrol the area.

"Whenever you have a common enemy, people unite in solidarity," Furshpan said. "So it looks like the community is definitely stepping up in terms of showing their support."

The museum and the GCPD request that they be contacted immediately if visitors see evidence of vandalism. The Police Department is investigating the most recent incident, and asks that anyone with information about it call (516) 676-1000.

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HERALD SPORTS

Hofstra aims for another CAA Crown

By ANDREW COEN

sports@iherald.com

Hofstra women's soccer defied the odds last year to repeat as conference champions and will look for a far clearer postseason path this fall in the Coastal Athletic Association.

The Pride was in danger of missing the 2022 CAA tourney following a 2-1 defeat to Stony Brook in the regular-season finale but moments after the game learned they had earned the league's final tournament spot when results in other matches went Hofstra's way. Hofstra proceeded to take full advantage of its renewed life to win its fifth CAA title in six years as the eight seed starting by knocking out top-seeded Monmouth and culminating in a dramatic overtime win at Northeastern.

"Once you face the jaws of defeat, I think it's easy to have a new lease of life," said 18th-year Hofstra women's soccer head coach Simon Riddiough, who has guided the Pride to seven CAA titles and nine NCAA Tournament appearances since taking over the program in 2006.

"To get that opportunity again was like a breath of fresh air and new impetus."

Riddiough returns seven starters off last year's 10-8-4 team that reached the NCAA Tournament for the sixth time in eight seasons. After a season-opening 2-1 loss at Albany, Hofstra rebounded in a major way with a 1-0 upset win at Big Ten power Rutgers on Aug. 20 on a late goal from junior midfielder Olivia Pearse on a counter attack in the 88th minute.

Pearse, a former standout at Seaford High School, has emerged as one of Hofstra's most impactful players on both ends of the field. She netted two goals and two assists as a sophomore.

"She has come in fitter than I have ever seen her and with a new attitude," said Riddiough of Pearse, who switched from the wide forward to fullback role last season. "She wears her heart on her sleeve and she leads by example."

Hofstra returned last year's leading scorer Dagny Run Petursdottir, who registered 19 points on seven goals and five assists as a freshman out of Iceland and was named to the Preseason All-CAA Honorable Mention team.

Another Iceland product, Thorhildur Thorhallsdottir, also shined as a first-year college player with three goals and two assists.

Sophomore midfielder/defender Wiktorija Fronc, a London native, also made her mark on Long Island from across the pond with seven assists to earn All-CAA Third Team and All-CAA and CAA All-Rookie Team honors.

While the Hofstra roster is global in nature featuring 10 international players from four countries to go along with 10 U.S. states, the team boasts many impactful local players led by Pearse and graduate student defender Cailey Welch, a former standout at North Shore High School. Freshman defender Jill Conlon, a two-time all county player from Calhoun High school in Merrick, could potentially see some minutes on the backline during her rookie college season on the college soccer pitch.

"She's composed on the ball," Riddiough said of Conlon. "She's a wonderfully nice kid who cares and I'm assuming will work hard to get to where she needs to go."

Graduate student starting goalie Skylar Kuzmich has missed the beginning of the season due to injury,



Photos courtesy Hofstra Athletics Communications

Thorhildur Thorhallsdottir, above right, a native of Iceland, shined as a first-year college player with three goals.

but Riddiough hopes to have her back during the heart of CAA play. Junior goalie Mackenzie Sullivan has stepped up in Kuzmich's absence and recorded five seasons in the Rutgers victory.

Hofstra kicks off its home schedule this Sunday against Atlantic 10 foe Saint Joseph's at 1 p.m. before beginning its quest for another CAA title on Sept. 10 when it hosts league newcomer Campbell at 1 p.m.

The Pride's home schedule is highlighted by a CAA finals rematch against Northeastern on Oct. 1 at 1 p.m.

The Pride were picked to finish third in the CAA Women's Soccer Preseason Poll behind Monmouth and Northeastern.

The top six finishers in the 13-team conference will earn spots to the CAA Tournament that commences on Oct. 26.

"If we stay healthy I think we can compete and beat anybody in the conference," Riddiough said.

Midfielder/defender Wiktorija Fronc, a London native, made her mark from across the pond with seven assists as a freshman.





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Alzheimer's Foundation brings walk to Nassau

By **JORDAN VALLONE**

jvallone@liherald.com

They are walking for a cure at Eisenhower Park this year — a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America bringing its annual walk to Nassau County this year on Saturday, Sept. 9. Fundraising efforts center around enriching the lives of those with the disease, and creating hope for a future without it.

Bert Brodsky founded the group in 2002, a decade after he lost his mother to the disease after a 12-year struggle. Today, the foundation provides support, services and education to individuals, families and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias worldwide. It also funds research for new treatments — and hopefully, one day, a cure.

This is the first time the East Meadow park is hosting the walk — something that had previously been held in the Town of Babylon, according to Chuck Fuschillo, the foundation's president and chief executive who also is a former state senator. Eisenhower Park caught the attention of organizers after it opened a respite care area this past May.

The respite care park, Fuschillo said, serves many purposes.

"One, is for caregivers to go with the person they're caring for in a beautiful setting," he said. "It's also for themselves, to avoid caregiver burnout. But it's also educational — there are signs along the



Courtesy Alzheimer's Foundation of America

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America host its national Walk in the Park weekend this year at Eisenhower Park in East Meadow. The walk is slated to take place Saturday, Sept. 9.

park that provide education about Alzheimer's disease, and tips and strategies for caregivers."

Signage also provides contact information for the foundation's national helpline at (866) 232-8484, which connects callers to licensed social workers trained to help with situations that may arise when caring for Alzheimer's patients.

The foundation's national Walk in the Park weekend will include physical walks on Long Island, and on Sept. 10 in New York City's Battery Park.

"We encourage people to participate in both walks, but we have walkers through-

out the entire country that create their own walks and support the work of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America," Fuschillo said. "So, we're very appreciative of individuals doing this throughout the entire country on that weekend."

The walk serves as a major fundraiser for some of the foundation's programs and initiatives. For example, the organization recently finalized the purchase of a building in Amityville, which will become the its Long Island education and resource center. There, the foundation will offer daily therapeutic programs, dementia training to professionals and

nonprofessionals in the health care industry, memory screenings and more.

"It will be one of the largest therapeutic and domestic training centers on the island," Fuschillo said. "You know, this disease has affected so many people and it's continually growing throughout Long Island — there's more than 60,000 people living with it now. We want to make sure that we have support services for families. And we're also providing hope with the research dollars that we provide."

The foundation also funds research at Stony Brook University and NYU Langone, as well as the Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research at Northwell Health in Manhasset. Some of it includes finding new treatment for Alzheimer's patients who experience hallucinations and agitation — work that takes place at Feinstein.

The foundation also provides scholarships to high school seniors across the country who submit essays detailing how Alzheimer's disease has impacted their lives. To date, the foundation has awarded more than \$450,000 to college-bound students.

Registration for the walk can be done so ahead of time at AlzFdn.org/walk. Individuals can register with a team or as a solo walker. They can also sign up on-site, the day of the walk.

This year's goal is to raise \$300,000, with nearly \$85,000 already collected.

In-person registration opens at 9 a.m. at Field 6, located at 1899 Park Blvd.

The walk officially kicks off at 10.

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Kids reel 'em in, hook, line and snapper

August 31, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD

Those who found themselves at Prybil Beach on the morning of Aug. 26, saw over 85 young Glen Covers, with tiny fishing rods crowded on the pier trying their hardest to catch as many fish as they could. Children slung rods and lines over the edge of the pier, casting and waited patiently — some more than others.

Although the Glen Cove mayor's snapper derby got off to a rainy start, sunshine filled the sky for a wonderful time with family and friends. Participating children competed for prizes in one of two divisions: junior division for kids ages 6 to 10 years old and senior division for 11-to 16-year-olds.

Winners

Junior division

First place — Richard Hall
Second place — Alex Adam
Third place — Milena Prokop

Senior division

First place — Joey Armati
Second place — Marcus Macalusso
Third place — Seamtin Braybew

Best angler

Mike Armati



Trophies and prizes were awarded to those with the best catches of the day.

Elisa Dragorro/Herald photos



Nina Prokop, right, helped her daughter Milena with a tangled line.



First place winner Michael Armati was happy to receive his trophy with Tom Mnzione of the Anglers Club and Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck.



Theodore Chimienti went fishing for snapper fish.

STEPPING OUT



Backyard pleasures

The livin' is easy ...even as summer winds down

By Karen Bloom

Home is a place of refuge. Now more so than ever, we've rediscovered the pleasures of our abodes to entertain, relax and otherwise "chill out."

We learned as we endured the coronavirus pandemic that moving our living spaces to the outdoors — with many of the creature comforts of indoors — has so many benefits. It's something we'll continue to enjoy to fullest in the seasons — and years ahead.

Your backyard is the ideal location to create summers full of memories for you, your family and friends, which will easily continue through fall. Easy to access? Check. Affordable? You bet. Able to accommodate all sorts of activities? Absolutely.

Your backyard's potential is really only limited by your imagination and willingness to roll up your sleeves to create a sensational space. Plus, you can get the whole family involved in the process — from start to finish.

"Home is not where you live your life — it's how you live your life," says food stylist and consultant Wendy Perry.

Today's outdoor vocabulary includes words like al fresco (in the fresh air), patio (Spanish for back garden), lanai (Hawaiian covered room), veranda (open-walled roofed porch) and portico (covered walkway with columns supporting it).

"We've all been practicing our 'backyarding' skills for the last few years, taking our indoor lives out into the green space around us," says Kris Kiser, president of the TurfMutt Foundation. "Now's a great time to turn your yard into the ideal outdoor room."

She cites a recent poll commissioned by the TurfMutt Foundation and conducted by The Harris Poll, that reports more than three-quarters of Americans who have a yard (76 percent) say the family yard space is one of the most important parts of their home.

Backyards can become your personal oasis. Fire pits, now all the rage, can be used for warmth on a chilly fall night. Overhead awnings can be used to shade you from the hot sun. Careful landscaping can turn a stone walkway into a tempting journey.

You might want to consider the approaching Labor Day weekend as an opportunity to get all hands on deck to begin the process of giving your yard a facelift. The first step to establishing a fun zone is to work with what you have. Think of it as a pre-fall cleanup. Clean out flowerbeds. Clear the yard of debris. Spread a fresh layer of mulch around trees and bushes. And keep the grass mowed.

See what additional trees, shrubs and plants might be needed.

List all the fun you want to continue to have outside. Identify activity zones for games, entertaining and relaxation. Can your lawn lure your kids away from their screens and into the great outdoors for cornhole bocce ball, croquet, or a giant checkers board game? Do you have a patio table or deck where family game nights can be held? Have a swimming pool where you can plan a "dive in" movie night, and invite your neighbors to bring their favorite pool float? Not to mention a memorable family "staycation" in your own backyard with camping, parties and more.



Bring learning outdoors. Learning is, of course, a year-round process. Keep "summer slide" at bay by setting up an area for outdoor learning, like a space under a shade tree where your kids can do summer reading. Create games and do experiments outdoors.

Don't forget Fido. Pets are part of the family, too, so think about what backyard improvements you can make to ensure they fully enjoy their outdoor time. Add a water feature for them to cool off. Plant some bushes for napping in the shade. Use a row of hedges to separate their "business" spot from the rest of the backyard activity areas. Just remember when planting to check the ASPCA's list of toxic and non-toxic plants.

Make outdoors as inviting as indoors. Think about ways to make your outdoor living area just as comfortable as your indoor spaces. String lights add a warm glow. That fire pit is great for toasting marshmallows.

Consider the good you're doing. Whether putting in a vegetable garden, planting pollinator-supporting shrubs and flowers, or creating activity zones, your family yard can do a lot — all at once, both for your family and the environment. A grassy area is not only a field for play, but it's also an excellent carbon-capturing and oxygen-producing space.

Planting shrubs and flowering plants feeds our birds, bees and butterflies. A leafy tree is a perfect perch for a relaxing swing in a hammock, and it provides shade to combat the heat island effect. It also produces oxygen and captures carbon. A garden where you can grow some food for the family gets you digging in the dirt, proven to be good for our immune systems and happiness. (Soil is the new Prozac, after all.)

Photos: The backyard is an important extension of a home's living space, so it makes sense that your family's individual style be reflected in its design.



Anders Osborne Duo

The roots/Americana rocker brings his acclaimed sound to the Landmark stage. Between the potency of his richly detailed songwriting, intensely emotional, soulful vocals and his piercing, expert guitar work, New Orleans' Anders Osborne is a true musical treasure. He is regarded among the most original musicians writing and performing today. Osborne's six-string virtuosity, inventive musicality, and poetic songcraft underpin an ever-expanding three-decade catalog celebrated by fans and critics alike. As a sought-after studio talent, his writing resounds through Keb Mo's award-winning "Slow Down," Tim McGraw's "Watch the Wind Blow By," and more. His extensive touring history encompasses collaborations and performances alongside everyone from Derek Trucks, Warren Haynes, and Stanton Moore, to Phil Lesh and Jackie Greene. Not to mention, he lit up the screen on an episode of the HBO hit "Treme."

Sunday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m. \$48 and \$43. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444, or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.



Sugar Ray

Sugar Ray closes out the summer concert season at Eisenhower Park. Most everything continues to change, yet Sugar Ray never seem to go out of style. While leaders cycle in and out of office, trends come and go. Vinyl dies, then comes back to life. Television shows go off the air and end up somewhere on the internet. Sugar Ray might just outlast them all. Beyond sales of 10 million records, four top-10 songs, streams in the hundreds of millions, and tickets sold, Sugar Ray — co-founded by Mark McGrath (vocals) and Rodney Sheppard (lead guitar) — embodies the endless summer of popular music and culture. Furthermore, how many acts can claim sharing the stage with the Rolling Stones, KISS, and the Sex Pistols; collaborating with Run-DMC, and interpolated by Post Malone? Just Sugar Ray. As always, bring seating.

Sunday, Sept. 3, 8 p.m. Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre, Eisenhower Park, East Meadow. For information, visit NassauCountyNY.gov/parks.

THE SCENE

Sept. 8

George Thorogood & The Destroyers

Since 1975, George Thorogood & The Destroyers have sold over 15 million albums, played more than 8,000 ferocious live shows, and built a catalog of classic hits that includes "Who Do You Love", "I Drink Alone", "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer", "Move It On Over" and "Get A Haircut." Their definitive badass anthem "Bad To The Bone," deemed the most popular song for bikers by Spotify, celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2022. Now "one of the most iconic bands in rock & roll history" (according to the Rapid City Journal, among others) celebrates it all with their tour Bad All Over The World: 50 Years Of Rock, visiting the Paramount stage, Friday, **Sept. 8**, 8 p.m. For the past 50 years, it's been very good to be George Thorogood & The Destroyers. And in 2023, their tour Bad All Over The World: 50 Years Of Rock will prove why like never before. "If you're content, you may as well be dead." George says. "I think everyone has thoughts about retiring, but the phone keeps ringing. 'You want me and The Destroyers to come to your town, set up our gear, wear some cool threads and play 'Who Do You Love?' End of conversation. Let's rock!" \$89.50, \$59.50, \$49.50, \$39.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.



Sept. 9

Bird walk

The South Shore Audubon Society welcomes all to join its members for a bird walk, at the Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, Saturday, **Sept. 9**, starting at 9 a.m. Walk leaders, other birders and nature enthusiasts are happy to share their knowledge and experience with you. Bring binoculars. 500 Slice Drive, off Waukeena Ave. To register, text your name and contact information to (516) 467-9498. Also text regarding questionable weather conditions. For more information, visit SSAudubon.org



On exhibit

View the landmark exhibition "Modigliani and the Modern Portrait," at Nassau County Museum of Art. Devoted to the way that Modigliani powerfully re-defined the art of portraiture, the show includes his masterworks along with paintings and drawings by his Parisian contemporaries (Picasso, van Dongen, Laurencin). Modigliani's enduring influence on artists even in our own time is shown in a selection of Contemporary paintings by such important figures as David Hockney, Eric Fischl, Elizabeth Peyton and others. The exhibition is being curated by Dr. Kenneth Wayne, founder of The Modigliani Project, which authenticates paintings and drawings (two of the works in the show have been recently approved by the committee). Through Nov. 5. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

Leaf Peepers



Celebrate fall and all the colors of the season with the family at Long Island

Children's Museum, Saturday, **Sept. 23**, 12-2 p.m. Use your imagination to make animal art out of colorful leaf shapes, focusing on the seasonal shades of vibrant yellow, deep purple, and fiery orange, at the drop-in program. Suitable for ages 3 and up. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org

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Westbury House Tour

For many years visitors to Westbury House at Old Westbury Gardens asked what was beyond the first floor corridor. Now go beyond the door and discover "secrets of the service wing," during a 60-minute guided tour, Sunday, **Sept. 2**, 1:30 p.m. Be introduced to the intensive labor required to create the lifestyle experienced by the Phipps family and their guests; tour the many rooms that were "behind the scenes" to create the formal dining experiences of early 20th century. Go along the corridors to the butler's pantry and silver cleaning room then descend the 17 steps to the kitchen, scullery, and wine storage rooms located on the ground floor. Reservations required. 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information contact (516) 333-0048 or visit OldWestburyGardens.org.

Art talk

Grab your lunch and join Nassau County Museum of Art Docent Riva Ettus for her popular "Brown Bag Lecture," now back on-site at Nassau County Museum of Art, Thursday, **Sept. 7**, 1 p.m. Enjoy an in-depth presentation on the current exhibition "Modigliani and the Modern Portrait." Participants are invited to ask questions at the end of the program and to join the 2 p.m. public tour of the exhibit. Also Oct. 19. 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

Trivia show

Enjoy drinks and a free trivia show in a cozy atmosphere, **every Wednesday**, at 7 p.m., at Campground Craft Beer Market in Sea Cliff. Tango Time Trivia shows are fun and free to play, and the winner gets a prize. Hosts bring the energy, jokes, good music and fun to help unwind after work. Bring your friends, co-workers and family. Campground serves a wide range of delicious craft beers and warm finger foods to enjoy while competing for first place. 208 Sea Cliff Ave. Visit Campgroundbeer.com for information.

Library Walking Club

Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, **every Thursday**, at 9:15 a.m. All fitness levels are welcome and attendees are encouraged to walk at their own pace, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. Register at GlencoveLibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.

Sept. 2



Storybook Stroll

Bring the kids to Old Westbury Gardens for a storybook adventure, Saturday, **Sept. 2**, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Stroll the gardens and open your ears to Mary Howitt's classic tale *The Spider and The Fly*. Later create a unique take home craft. For ages 3-5. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information visit OldWestburyGardens.org or contact (516) 333-0048.

History in Miniature

Raynham Hall Museum invites everyone to a cocktail reception for its exhibition, "History in Miniature," Saturday, Sept. 16, 4-6 p.m. The exhibit takes a closer look at dioramas and miniatures, investigating our fascination with small-scale creations. The exhibition is drawn from the collection of Richard Schuster, treasurer of the Board of Raynham Hall Museum. Schuster has collected, researched, and painted historical miniatures for over 60 years and has amassed a collection of over 30,000 figures and scenics. 30 West Main Street, Oyster Bay. For information, visit RaynhamHallMuseum.org or call (516) 922-6808.

Author Talk

Meet author Heather Marshall at Glen Cove Public Library's virtual program, Tuesday, **Sept. 12**, 2 p.m. Her powerful debut historical novel "Looking For Jane," tells of three women whose lives are bound together by a long-lost letter, a mother's love, and a secret network of women fighting for the right to choose. It is inspired by true stories. Register at GlenCoveLibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130.

Having an event?

Items on The Scene page are listed free of charge. The Herald welcomes listings of upcoming events, community meetings and items of public interest. All submissions should include date, time and location of the event, cost, and a contact name and phone number. Submissions can be emailed to thescene@liherald.com.

Sept. 10

St. Jude Run/Walk

Registration is open for the St. Jude Walk/Run Long Island, presented by Tweezerman International during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Sunday, **Sept. 10**, 9 a.m., at Marcum Corporate Offices & Park. The St. Jude Walk/Run offers everyone a chance to walk or run and gather in-person or virtually to raise funds and awareness for the St. Jude mission: Finding cures. Saving children. Besides the walk/run, the event features entertainment, food and activities for the whole family to enjoy. Participants will even have the opportunity to connect with St. Jude patients and learn firsthand how their support makes a difference. 10 Melville Park Road, Melville. Register or learn more at StJude.org/walklongisland.

Crystal Candle Workshop

Pour soy wax, add crystals, and blend essential oils to create a scented candle. Join in Saturday, **Sept. 2**, at 1 p.m., at the Locust Valley Library, 170 Buckram Road. Register at LocustValleyLibrary.org. Contact the library at (516) 671-1837 for more details.

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OBITUARIES

Pamela "Pam" (Hinds) Galasso

Pamela "Pam" (Hinds) Galasso, 79, of Glen Cove, died on Aug. 24. She was preceded in death by her son, John Leslie; parents, May and Gregory; and stepfather, Les. Pam is survived by her husband of 58 years, John; children, Annette, Mark, and David (Tuyet); grandchildren, Angela and Christina; siblings, Annette, Sarah, and Simon; and stepmother, Cynthia.



**PAMELA "PAM"
(HINDS) GALASSO**

Pam grew up on a farm with her parents and sister in England, where she dis-

covered her love of nature and the outdoors. She unselfishly offered her time and kind words to everyone in her life. Her presence was a gift. She was a source of light, love and kindness to us all, and she will be forever in our hearts.

Visitation will at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove on Sept. 17, from 2 to 6 p.m. Funeral mass will be held on Sept. 18 at St. Patrick's Church of Glen Cove at noon. Inurnment to follow at Locust Valley Cemetery.

Giuseppe Grazios

Giuseppe Grazios, 86, of Glen Cove, died on Aug. 23. Beloved husband of Stella Morra; loving father of Angelina and Michael (Janine); dear brother of Pasquale (Porfy), Costantina Grella (Giuseppe), Lucia Grella (Pasquale), Gina Bruno (Antonio), Carlino (Rita), the late Antonietta

(the late Giovanni Stanco) and the late Angelo (the late Filicella); adored grandfather of Kyle Nitzsche and Ethan. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Visitation entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home.



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ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKE OUT QUEEN

Takeout visits a spa

I just returned from a spa vacation and started thinking — what would happen if the foods I love took vacations in spas as well? What kinds of spa treatments would they choose and how might those treatments affect their flavors? At the same time, I found new dishes in four eateries around town. Putting the two together, I imagine “spa treatments” on foods bring out the very best in them. Here are a few examples.

■ **Ocean (333 Bayville, Ave., Bayville)** There’s a lovely, light, airy feel to the restaurant’s newly renovated dining area. As I enjoyed my cauliflower steak, I couldn’t help noticing its exceptionally smooth, silky texture. Perhaps it was because the cauliflower had been delicately covered with black garlic mousse. What a great body moisture spa treatment for a vegetable. More importantly, four new additions were added to the menu in August: rack of lamb pailard, Chilean sea bass, and traditional

and non-traditional starters such as burrata with prosciutto and melon, and a fresh fig appetizer with honey and walnuts. New steak dishes were added to the menu as well. Be on the lookout.

■ **Josie’s Pizzas Bar (approximate truck location: 1 Garvies Point Road, Glen Cove)** Friends recommended this relatively new pizza food truck, and I’m so glad they did. Each order is made from scratch using only the finest ingredients. As I munched on my “Glen Cove Ang” spicy pizza, I wondered how the dough could be so perfectly soft with a slight crispness. I’m guessing the dough had been flattened by a chef’s personal massage followed by a steam bath in the wood-fired oven. As a final touch, the pizza was topped with ingredients including Calabrian chili spread, fresh mozzarella, and hot sop-

pressata.

Owner/chef Josie Giglio got her start working in prominent pizzerias and restaurants in the New York area. She told me, “I’ve worked on my dough recipe for many years. I think what makes the product so delicious is the energy, time, attention to detail and enormous love we put in every pizza, panini, calzone and salad we make.” Three standard pizza choices are always offered, plus five or six original choices rotate every two weeks.



CATHI TUROW

■ **Teddy’s Bully Bar (46 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay)** Four new dishes have been added to the menu in this favorite café: lobster bake (lobster with corn, five oysters, and potatoes), lobster roll, clam pizza, and Mexican street corn. I imagined the street corn on the cob got its exceptional

flavor after a spa body scrub consisting of crema sauce and chipotle seasoning. If you don’t see the dishes on the menu, ask for them.

■ **International House of Pancakes (1586 Northern Blvd., Manhasset)** For a limited time, you can order taco-style pancakes. Pancakes folded in half as if they’re tacos are filled with sweet or savory ingredients. Each one reminded me of a spa wrap. I tried the fresh strawberry cheesecake taco and the scrambled eggs, bacon, and cheese version. The warmth of the pancake wrapped around the variety of flavors created a delightfully oozy texture.

The moral of the story is the next time your takeout is incredibly delicious, assume it just might have returned from a spa vacation. See you next month!

Cathi Turow can be reached at: cturoutakeout@gmail.com

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The Parker Jewish Institute opens outdoor pickleball court

The Parker Jewish Institute has opened a 26-by-30-foot outdoor pickleball court, on its patio level, for patients and residents. This popular activity is modified to help participants have fun while achieving their physical- and occupational-therapy goals. It also promotes social interaction.

Pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in America, and is easy for beginners to learn. The sport offers older adults a host of benefits, including functional- and cognitive-related improvements, and a reduction in self-reported pain.

On the court, participants must wear appropriate footwear, for safety. Recreational leaders begin each session with simple movement and stretching, followed by an explanation of rules and goals. During the warm-up, participants get ample opportunity to practice with equipment, whether it's swinging a paddle or practicing serves.

Pickleball court-time is scheduled through Parker's Director of Therapeutic Recreation. In this adaptive version of the sport, participants are escorted to the court and seated, and for those in wheelchairs, the chair is locked as a safety measure. Recreational staff, positioned on either side of the nets, provide safety reminders and help to keep the ball in play. Staff members offer hydration during play, and follow each



resident's plan of care.

"We are so excited to offer pickleball at Parker Jewish Institute. Our recreational team offers engaging, adaptive activities that help residents and patients build strength, endurance and range of motion," said Michael N. Rosenblut, President and CEO of Parker Jewish Institute. "Physical activity is very important for healthy aging, and helps prevent any chronic conditions from worsening. And when an activity is fun and inclusive, people look forward to their sessions, while also improving their overall well-being."

About The Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation

The Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation is headquartered in New Hyde Park, New York. The facility is a leading provider of Short Term Rehabilitation and Long Term Care. At the forefront of innovation in patient-centered health care and technology, the Institute is a leader in teaching and geriatric research. Parker Jewish Institute features its own medical team, and is nationally renowned as a skilled nursing facility, as well as a provider of community-based health care, encompassing



Home Health Care, Medical House Calls, Palliative Care and Hospice. Parker Jewish Institute is also home to Queens-Long Island Renal Institute (QLIRI), led by an interdisciplinary team of experienced Nephrologists and Dialysis Registered Nurses, a Renal Social Worker, and a Registered Renal Dietitian.



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Queens Long Island Renal Institute provides dialysis patients care, safety and convenience

The award-winning Queens Long Island Renal Institute focuses on care, safety and convenience for kidney dialysis patients in the New York metropolitan area. Located in the lobby level of Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation with its own entrance, the center provides care to Parker's residents and patients as well as to the general public.

Queens Long Island Renal Institute offers the finest quality of care, state-of-the-art technology and uncompromised dignity, in a bright, ultra-modern and comfortable setting.

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Licensed by the New York State Department of Health, QLIRI is led by a dedicated, interdisciplinary team of experienced nephrologists and dialysis registered nurses, a



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"With Queens Long Island Renal Institute conveniently located in Parker's first-floor lobby, we continue to safely and comfortably meet the needs of our patients and residents, as well as members of the New York community who also benefit from our services," said Michael N. Rosenblut, President and Chief Executive Officer of Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation.

About Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation

Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation, which is headquartered in New Hyde Park, is a leading provider of Short Term Rehabilitation and Long Term Care. At the forefront of innovation in patient-centered health care and technology, the Institute is a leader in teaching and geriatric research. Parker Jewish Institute features its own medical department, and is nationally renowned as a skilled nursing facility, as well as a provider of community-based health care, encompassing Social Adult Day Care, Home Health Care, Medical House Calls, Palliative Care and Hospice.



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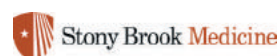
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Gách inspired by North Shore landscapes

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Many of the paintings and sculptors created by George Gách are on permanent exhibit at the North Shore Historical Museum in Glen Cove. For many years, the Roslyn resident created landscapes that often-depicted landmarks local to the North Shore, especially in Sea Cliff and Oyster Bay. His style is both classical and impressionistic, and his subjects included animals, flowers, dancers, musicians, skaters, athletes and cowboys, to name a few. Gách utilized a variety of locations, including Long Island, Bermuda, Mexico, upstate New York and Florida. And he had 35 one-man shows.

Born in Budapest, Hungary in 1909, he was the son of a prominent Hungarian sculptor and apprenticed under his father's tutelage until the age of 18. Gách attended the Fine Arts Academy in Budapest, where he later became an assistant professor. But his career as an artist emotionally solidified with him when he served as a pilot during World War II, when he was shot down and imprisoned by the Russian Army in 1944.

Footage from the artist's 80th birthday shows him recalling the pivotal moment in his life. He remembers crashing on the side of a mountain and turning off his engines for a safe landing. Not long after the crash, Russian soldiers, who had their guns raised ready to fire, approached him. But the soldiers saw Gách laughing among the smoldering wreckage, arms held high, and ready to surrender.

Confused, the Russian soldiers asked him why he wasn't acting in fear. He replied that he wasn't scared of them; he was happy to be alive after the crash.

Gách was taken as a prisoner back to the Russian camps and was confined to a small room with a heavy metal door. This door had a small hole which he convinced his captors to slip paper and pencils through. For weeks, he drew portraits of the guards with his minimalist tools. The guards were so impressed by his talent that they agreed to rotate their shifts every four hours so they could have their turn seeing a glimpse of themselves through the eyes of a classically trained artist.

His talents got the attention of the prison manager who asked Gách if he would paint a portrait of his wife. Gách agreed and impressed the manager and his wife so much they agreed to let him go. He spent a total of only three weeks as a Russian prisoner.

When Gách saw his father after his release, he said he was convinced that he was finally an artist because his art enabled him to survive captivity in the Russian prison.

Gách returned to Budapest, and in 1947, feeling threatened by the Communist regime, fled to Beirut, Lebanon, where he became a pilot for a Middle Eastern airline and also taught at the Academy of



The iconic landscapes and scenes on the North Shore heavily inspired George Gách's paintings. This painting is a scene from Tappen Beach in Sea Cliff during the 1970s.

Photos courtesy North Shore Historic Museum

Fine Arts.

In 1952, Gách relocated his wife and three children to the United States and devoted himself entirely to painting, sculpting and art instruction. He claims he would draw at least six hours per week to keep what he learned sharp in his mind.

"I can now fly as high as I desire with the fantasy provide by my work," Gách's website quoted him saying.

Among Gách's many distinguished awards are the Audubon Artists Medal of Honor in 1966, the Gold Medal of the National Sculpture Society of New York in 1970, and the Percival Dietsch Award of the National Sculpture Society of New York in 1974.

I can now fly as high as I desire with the fantasy provided by my work.

GEORGE GÁCH

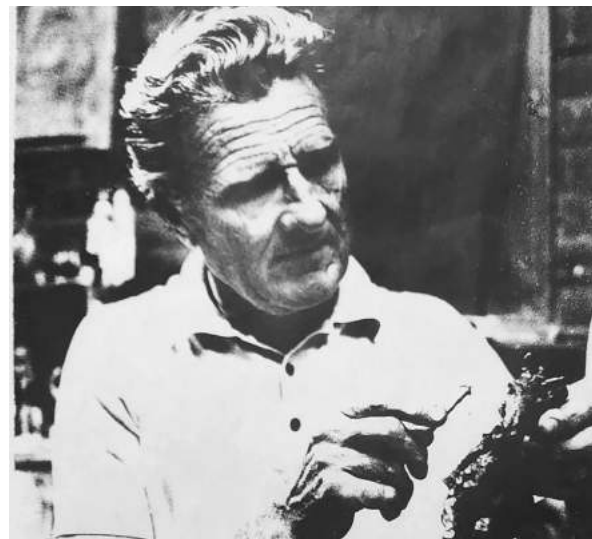
He continued to paint, sculpt and travel widely throughout Europe, North and South America and the South Pacific. Among the works he produced in Beirut was a bronze bust of the president of Lebanon.

Gách's died in 1996. His legacy lives on through his work and family lineage. His daughter, Susie Gách Peelle, a Locust Valley resident, began drawing at age 5, and painting at 12. She posed for her father, observed his lessons, demos, and outdoor classes.

Her subjects vary greatly, as well as her mediums, which include oil, acrylic, pastel, lead, conté, ink, gouache, graphics, and mosaic. She said her father dissuaded her from working in metal sculpting, saying the material was too heavy to lift.

During a George Gách exhibition at Nassau Community College in the early 90s, he advised his daughter that an artist's only handicap is material. His most sage advice to his audience came from his philosophical insight about people.

"The difference between people is not race or nationality," Gách said. "The difference is between who are creative people and who are destroyers."



Painter and sculptor George Gách was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1909 and died in the United States in 1996. He was the son of a prominent Hungarian sculptor, he apprenticed under his father's tutelage until he was 18.

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Imagine students who can not only grasp the concepts of science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, courses through the diligent application of the scientific method, but also generate original and thought-provoking work in the humanities. Picture them creating intricate pieces in fine, performing and culinary arts, and graduating with a thorough comprehension of holistic health and physical well-being. Isn't this the kind of holistic education that benefits society?



**DANIEL
REHMAN**

But such growth and learning cannot be conveniently distilled into numerical values. It's a fallacy to assume that numbers hold the ultimate truth about the depth of our students' learning.

The New York State Education Department has created a blue-ribbon

committee to present potential changes to graduation measures. One desired change is to shift toward more holistic assessments that evaluate a broader range of skills and knowledge alongside the traditional Regents exams, incorporating project-based assessments, portfolios, presentations and other methods.

Additionally, there is a need for more flexible pathways to graduation, acknowledging students' diverse strengths, interests and career goals. New pathways could involve offering various courses, internships and experiences on college campuses, allowing students to specialize in their areas of passion.

A focus on real-world relevance is also important, emphasizing practical skills, critical thinking, problem solving and the application of knowledge to prepare students for future challenges. The aim is to create a learning environment that nurtures mastery, creativity and individual identity, in which students

can pursue their unique interests and meet their specific needs. By fostering each student's unique identity, we can ensure equal opportunities for success and access to necessary resources and support, irrespective of their back-

ground or circumstances. It would require flexible scheduling, differentiated instruction, and opportunities for students to pursue their interests.

There is a prevailing concern that the Education Department might contemplate reducing standards and expectations. I am hopeful that it will do no such thing, and I strongly oppose any such direction of thought. All students, without exception, should be given the chance to display their mastery in all areas of learning. This encompasses a comprehensive understanding of subjects ranging from STEM to humanities, encompassing fine, performing and culinary arts as well as physical education and health.

There is a need to acknowledge students' diverse strengths and goals.

Across the nation, societal divisions have deepened, yet our common ground outweighs our differences. Unfortunately, the decline of tight-knit neighborhoods, the excessive reliance on social media, and the neglect of reading have hindered genuine and civil interactions among us. Instead of engaging meaningfully with our neighbors, we often resort to shouting into the echo chambers of social platforms. Both classic and contemporary literary works are rejected as unworthy of our attention, further fragmenting our intellectual pursuits.

As educators, we possess the extraordinary power to give students the platform to realize their potential. I promote the idea of the hashtag "Read Write Think Critically Daily." Rather than instructing students what to think, our role should focus more on guiding them in the art of critical thinking. I sincerely hope that any forthcoming changes in graduation requirements will be designed to unlock the full potential of every student.

Daniel Rehman is the superintendent of the West Hempstead school district.

Gone camping, better late than never

There are probably some experiences people shouldn't try for the first time when they're over 65, but I really wanted to go camping out West. I don't much like the notion of a "bucket list," with its attendant connotation of impending bucket-kicking, but I knew I wanted to try camping while I'm still fit.



**RANDI
KREISS**

My daughter, an experienced outdoorswoman, organized the adventure, and came along with her two kids, ages 6 and 4. My son and daughter-in-law immediately signed on with their two kids, 10 and 8. We picked a week in August when my husband

would be immersed in the most anti-camping experience imaginable, a trade show in Las Vegas.

He didn't go outside for six days straight, working, eating, sleeping in the hotel. We didn't go inside for a week, except to sleep (briefly).

Long story short: I'm thrilled that I went. I did it all, and now I'm done.

We drove from San Francisco to the Big Sur Campground, about three hours south. First observation: To camp you must be willing to do an enormous amount of work that you wouldn't need to do if you just stayed home in your house.

We had tents and sleeping bags, a medical kit, a cooler filled with food, bags of dry groceries, water, wool hats and gloves, layers of silk and wool and spare shoes, eyeglasses and medications. We brought wine and cheeses and salamis and bread and peanut butter and jelly.

We arrived at the campground in the late afternoon. Look at it through my eyes: a stunning expanse of land set among giant redwoods; a picture-perfect creek bubbling around the perimeter of the campground; kids in rubber tubes floating by. But I expected wilderness, and we pitched our tents right next to cars and giant RVs. It was like sleeping in a parking lot, with a serious possibility of getting run over in the middle of the night.

We got the tents set up and put wood beside the fire pit and went off on a small hike. The smell of fresh pine trees was intoxicating, and I was really beginning to relax when I saw the posted sign warning about mountain lion attacks. It said that if a mountain lion leaps at you, try to look big. I wonder how one does that.

We hiked on. It was a walk that ended at a beach, a stunning landscape of rocks and crashing waves. Of course, no one can swim in the northern Pacific without a wetsuit, and the great whites are kind of a buzz kill, but the kids had fun on the beach.

Back at the campsite, we made a dinner plan. This being Northern California camping, we had a reservation at Nepenthe, a trendy restaurant a few miles away. Think \$25 entrees. Set on a cliff over the sea, the place attracted elegant women driving expensive sports cars and men with just the right amount of shabby chic to disguise their immense wealth. It was as if the entire Silicon Valley was in Big Sur for the weekend. These people weren't camping out unless it was at Clint Eastwood's Carmel estate.

Back at the campsite, day was done. People were in their tents and RVs. I noticed it was dark. Not just dark but a total black-out, with just a sliver of moon in the sky over the trees. Where had I put my toothbrush? How would I brush my teeth? What if, heaven forbid, I had to go to the bathroom during the night? Turns out there were communal bathrooms and showers.

We slept, we ate well, we played in the creek and we toasted s'mores over our campfire. Still, I don't get it. A campground does have some amenities, but it also has other people who cook smelly food and play music at night and bring their annoying dogs. The idea seems to be that you drag as much equipment — food and lights and tents and blow-up mattresses and portable stoves — as you can to make yourself comfortable when

I'll remember my four grandkids, sitting around the campfire at night.

**Randi is on a brief leave.
This column was originally
published Aug. 29, 2013.**

you could just stay home and not have to walk a quarter-mile in the dark to pee.

That's the unromantic take on camping.

This is what I choose to remember: my four grandkids, sitting around the campfire at night, stuffing their faces with marshmallows and chocolate. They ask for a "Grandma Randi story" and I tell them one:

"Sabrina, Jacob, Elijah and Emi, when I tell you stories, they always begin the same way, with you four cousins, who love each other so much, going on an adventure. Well, kids, you're living the story. Here you are together sleeping in a tent by a river. Put your arms around each other. This is a moment to remember."

The next night, when we were gathered by the fire, they asked for another story, a "real" campfire story. "See that star up there next to the moon?" I said. "It's actually a spaceship, and tonight, when you're sleeping, it will land here next to our tents. Tiny aliens with enormous heads will lift the flap of your tent and carry you off to their planet, which happens to be made of ice cream."

The grandkids looked giddy with excitement and fear. My work was done.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Why supporting local news is so important

It's called the Fourth Estate, a term used by journalists referring to their responsibilities and obligations as watchdogs of democracy, providing objective truth to the public they serve.

In a nation where we pride ourselves on freedoms, the First Amendment is the only line of defense newspapers — like this one — can rely on to maintain that Fourth Estate.

That's why what happened in Kansas recently is so important. A small-town newspaper, the Marion County Record — not much different from this one — had its offices raided by police as part of an identity-theft investigation.

It's not that media outlets work above the law — far from it. But raiding a newspaper office and retrieving materials that may have otherwise been protected under the First Amendment is something that can't be done on a whim, and requires near-extraordinary circumstances.

This particular raid, according to reports, stemmed from a complaint by a local restaurant owner who felt that her privacy was violated when the Record uncovered her troubled driving record.

Police weren't sure how the newspaper obtained the information on her 2008 drunken driving conviction, and concluded that it had to involve illegality of some sort. They said that the only way a reporter — or someone working with the reporter — could have obtained that information was by falsely claiming to be the restaurant owner. And if they did, they committed fraud.

But verifying information is what reporters do. Yes, they must use legal means, but a number of First Amendment advocates questioned whether there was enough probable cause against the newspaper to meet the extraordinarily high bar

of raiding the newsroom.

Eric Meyer, the publisher and editor of the Record, suspected the raid was retaliation for the paper's coverage of the local police department, and may have even been an attempt to stall future reporting on the police chief. Instead, the raid — and the effort to justify it in light of nationwide criticism — has created new problems for law enforcement and prosecutors, whom we depend on to serve and protect all of us.

Newsroom raids are extremely rare thanks not only to First Amendment, but also the Privacy Protection Act of 1980, which prohibits law enforcement from searching or seizing information from reporters, with a few exceptions.

One of the exceptions is how an organization obtains its information, which is what law enforcement and prosecutors in Marion County claimed opened the door to the raid in the first place. In the initial fallout, those government officials defended the action, saying they had enough evidence to support it.

Yet less than a week after the raid, local prosecutors withdrew the search warrants and returned the seized items, determining that "insufficient evidence exists to establish a legally sufficient nexus between this alleged crime and the places searched and the items seized."

Freedom of the press is a guaranteed right, and must be recognized by law enforcement agencies responsible for upholding our rights. The Founding Fathers made this protection explicit, because as Thomas Jefferson famously said, "The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right. And were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without news-

papers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

The press must be allowed to work independent of government scrutiny. If a media outlet does violate the law, it should be prosecuted — but only in a way that keeps protections guaranteed by the First Amendment intact.

Otherwise, violations of the amendment not only threaten community newspapers like the Record, they also endanger democracy as a whole.

Reporters, armed only with an obligation to the truth, must be protected in carrying out their watchdog role, especially when it comes to investigating corruption or scandal. Journalists have a duty to hold public officials accountable, and without the protections of the First Amendment, they would be left to fend for themselves in the face of very powerful forces capable of changing anyone's life forever.

We pity societies in which the press is not free. Where oppressive behavior like unjustified office raids is used by despots and dictators as a way to suppress knowledge and information from public view.

That's why a threat to one local newspaper like the Marion County Record is a threat to all media. As reporters, we pride ourselves on our integrity — the only currency we have with you, our readers — and work hard to supply the news coverage you want and need to be engaged and informed.

Maybe law enforcement felt it truly was justified in its actions in Marion County. But in the end, it simply reminded us that our rights in the free society that is the United States are solely dependent on the people we put in place to govern us — and the independent media that exists to hold them truly accountable.

LETTERS

Remembering Shirley Pinckney

To the Editor:

As summer comes to a close, Glen Cove has lost one of its finest, a small woman with a strong stature and a huge heart who did everything she could to make a difference in the lives of the seniors she served as senior advocate at the Senior Center for over 10 years.

It takes a rare person to fight for others while you yourself are going through so much, but that was who Shirley Pinckney was, a quiet heroine who worried about others more than herself. Every member knew they could turn to her when they were in need, and every politician found her at their doorstep to discuss issues as critical as the affordable housing crisis, transportation challenges, and home health aide compensation.

She was a truly compassionate and unwavering advocate, and I found her faith in and support of older residents invaluable, and her passion for helping others inspiring.

We talked about change, how to navigate systems and hold



OPINIONS

A get-together of Republican all-stars

Recently I was privileged to attend a reunion dinner, which Nassau County Republican Chairman Joe Cairo hosted at King Umberto's Restaurant, in Elmont, for former Town of Hempstead councilmen and supervisors who served at various times over the past half century.

The town, whose population of almost 800,000 makes it the largest township in America, has always been the base of the Nassau GOP's support and success. As county chairman, Cairo has done an outstanding job leading the party to repeated victories over the past several years. These successes



PETER KING

include winning back the North Hempstead supervisor's position for the first time in more than three decades; the offices of county executive, district attorney and comptroller; three State Senate seats in Albany; and congressional seats in Washington. These victories, in a county where registered Democrats outnumber Republicans, brought about Cairo's election as New York's national committeeman.

I believe much of his success as county chairman is attributable to the knowledge and experience he has acquired over his many years in politics and govern-

ment — particularly his service as a councilman on the Hempstead Town Board beginning in 1975. The board was known for working together, getting the job done and realizing that good government is good politics. I was elected councilman in 1977, and served until I was elected county comptroller in 1981.

Those attending the reunion dinner included:

- Al D'Amato, who served as the town's receiver of taxes, supervisor and presiding supervisor before his election to the U.S. Senate.

- Leo McGinity, who was elected councilman in 1969 before being appointed to the bench in 1976 and ultimately serving as an associate justice in the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court.

- Jim Bennet, Greg Peterson and Rich Guardino, all of whom served as councilmen and supervisor.

- Pat Zagarino, who served as councilman.

- Bruce Blakeman, who was a councilman before being elected our current county executive.

This was a truly great evening of not just sharing stories and reminiscing, but getting input and advice from these pros after Cairo detailed the recent successes

and the challenges ahead in the fast-changing world of politics and government.

Certainly, times have changed. Aside from Blakeman, none of us served on the board during a time of pervasive social media. Also, while politics was always a tough business, and stories of the "good old days" are usually exaggerated, there was nothing then like today's bitter partisanship. Yet the underlying governmental and political precepts of those days are still meaningful: quick responsiveness to local governmental issues and problems, a strong year-round presence in the community, and door-to-door campaigning by candidates and local committeemen and women.

Most important, government officials should always be taking the political pulse of their constituents, and not be swayed by the media or elitist opinion makers. That was true then, and is just as true today, as was proven in the past two election cycles, in which Democrats' advocacy of misguided proposals, such as bail reform and defunding the police, paved the way for Republican victories and devastating defeats for the Democrats in Nassau County.

Because those issues were largely ignored by the mainstream media, however, Republican candidates would not have prevailed without extensive paid

media advertising, a large social media presence and the unmatched Nassau GOP ground game of direct mail to voters, targeted telephone campaign calls, door-to-door distribution of campaign literature and saturation walk-throughs. All this was overseen and coordinated by Cairo, using the feedback he got from candidates and local campaign workers as well as polling results from campaign consultants such as John McLaughlin.

As I've said, much has changed in the Town of Hempstead and in Nassau County over the years, including demographics, party registration and the reality that so many households now have two working spouses. What Cairo and the county Republican organization have done is update and modernize the same methods of year-round hard work and attention to constituent needs and beliefs to achieve political and governmental success. That was certainly the conclusion of the "old-timers" who attended the reunion dinner.

Nothing in politics is easy or guaranteed, and you can never afford to rest on your laurels, but we are confident that with Cairo at the helm, the Nassau GOP will remain the most effective and responsive political organization in the nation.

One additional lesson I learned is to take the same vitamins as Judge McGinity, who at age 96 is as sharp, alert and mobile as any of us!

Peter King is a former congressman, and a former chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security.

LETTERS

on to hope, how to really make a difference even if it meant just taking small steps and then, with great spirit and for many years, we walked the walk together. She will be sorely missed, but never, ever forgotten.

CAROL WALDMAN
*Former executive director,
Glen Cove Senior Center*

Only time will tell

To the Editor:

Jeanine and I would like to thank the Herald and reporter Roksana Amid for including our comments in "The View Grill's future looks very uncertain" (Aug. 10-16). With community newspapers on the verge of going the way of the dinosaur (much like mom-and-pop businesses like ours), it is reassuring to know that Glen Cove's is still going strong, buoyed by reporters like Roksana, who, I can say from firsthand experience, takes her job very seriously. Kudos to her and the Herald!

We appreciate "Mayor Pam's" assurance that the city's intention in initiating the RFP process was not to "push Jeanine out" because "she's more than welcome

to apply for this again." Obviously, in theory, that's true, but much like a lot of political speak, in reality it's ridiculous to think that a mom-and-pop operation like ours could afford to do what the RFP suggests would be the ideal blueprint for the future of that business. So, in my opinion, her comments were naïve at best, duplicitous at worst, but irrelevant from our standpoint, regardless.

We will be submitting a proposal that indicates what we will be willing to do, but our "score" will be relatively low, because it will not satisfy many of the items deemed ideal. This doesn't mean that we will automatically lose. In our case, there's the possibility that there will be no opponent, and we'll win by default. (Everyone we've shown the proposal to thinks it's ridiculous, so there might actually be a good chance of this happening.)

Unfortunately for us, with respect to the line items that will ultimately determine our score, there are no points given for 10 years of successful operation of the facility, including during the coronavirus pandemic, when we continued to serve Glen Cove residents via takeout while keeping some of our employees on the payroll. Surely that should be worth at least one out of the 100 available points somewhere in the 38-page document!

Apparently, the pudding comprising the proof isn't on the menu at the restaurant outlined in this proposal.

Finally, I will once again state, first, that ignoring the fact that I am involved in this, as a taxpayer in this community (which many of you reading this also are), I do not believe this is a sound business plan for one of our city's resources. Second, even if it were, we (or in all likelihood, anyone other than a corporate entity) would be unable to afford to make the commitment that achieving a high score would require. Third, and most important, even if it were a viable business plan that we could afford, it is not the type of business that Jeanine and I want to operate.

We take pride in providing on-premises catering for modest events for regular people: memorials that provide comfort for family members who have lost loved ones who spent many hours at the golf course and our restaurant, baby showers,

birthday parties and anniversaries. Those are the events we enjoy providing for our clientele, and will continue to provide, whether it be at 111 Lattingtown Road or elsewhere. (If necessary, Chef Jeanine has some exciting exit plans, which include either opening a restaurant at another location or forming an association with an established one.)

As everyone who has been touched by her cooking and, more important, her compassion, will attest, Chef Jeanine is an asset to this community, and there is no doubt that she will continue to prosper, as will the people of this community by extension. However, as for the fate of our restaurant, if it is indeed taken over by an entity that has actually committed to satisfying the ideals laid out in the proposal, well, like the super group Asia sang in 1981, only time will tell.

FRED DiMENNA
View Grill, Glen Cove

CORRECTION

AHRC Nassau is the name of the agency that provides services and support to people with developmental dis-

abilities. AHRC is no longer an acronym. A story in the July 27-Aug. 2 issue stated otherwise.

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